February 17, 2023

Dear Honorable Members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee,

I am in opposition of H.B. 5653, An Act Establishing and Excise Tax on Ammunition to Provide Funding for Community Gun Violence and Intervention Program Grants. This bill is nothing more than an arbitrary increase of the sales tax charged on a product that already requires buyers to obtain a permit from the State to legally purchase. People who obtain permits and legally purchase ammunition are not the people who are committing community gun violence. But once again, the law-abiding citizens, who want nothing more than to exercise their constitutional rights, are punished for the acts of criminals who do not obtain permits and do not legally purchase ammunition.

It's time we go back to placing the blame on those who are committing the crimes and enforce the existing criminal laws.

Please oppose this bill and start enforcing existing laws that address gun violence.

Thank you.

Jeffrey Davis Suffield, CT